

REMARKS

Applicants note an apparent error in the Office Action dated December 12, 2005, wherein reference is made to an RCE / Amendment filed April 8, 2004, wherein no such RCE / Amendment has been filed by Applicants. It is further noted that no claims have been amended or added prior to the filing of this response.

Claim 1 is presently amended with this response, and claims 11 and 23-27 are cancelled with this response without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-10 and 12-22 are currently pending in the application. Reconsideration of the application in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

**I. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-8, 10-13, AND 15-23, AND 25-27 UNDER
35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

Claims 1-8, 10-13, 15-23, and 25-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), as being anticipated by Bacchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,741,113). Claim 1 has been amended with this response to incorporate the limitations of claim 11, wherein no new matter has been added. Claims 11 and 23-27 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-8, 10, 12-13, and 15-22 is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons:

i. Bacchi et al. fail to teach or suggest a second actuator comprising a servo motor fixedly mounted to the first link, as recited in claim 1.

Bacchi et al., teach first and second concentric motors 50 and 52 that rotate about a common shoulder axis 16 (see, e.g., Bacchi et al., Col. 4, Ins. 35-65 and Fig. 2). Thus, the first motor 50 (which rotates the forearm 22) is rotatably coupled to the upper arm 14 via bearings 104 and forearm spindle 56, wherein the first motor rotates the upper arm by an endless belt 68 (see, e.g., Col. 4, Ins. 51-54 and Col. 6, Ins. 24-26). ***Accordingly, the first motor 50 is not fixedly mounted to the upper arm 14, but rather, rotates with respect to the upper arm.***

Therefore, Bacchi et al. fail to anticipate the presently claimed invention, wherein the second actuator of the present invention is fixedly mounted to the first link, as recited in claim 1, and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-8, 10, 12-13, and 15-22 is respectfully requested.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 3-5 AND 14 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 3-5 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bacchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,741,113) in view of Seraji et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,737,500). As stated above, claim 1 has been amended with this response and is believed to be allowable over the cited art, and Seraji et al. fail to remedy the deficiencies of the primary reference. Claims 3-5 and 14 depend on claim 1, and therefore are further believed to be allowable over the cited art.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 3-5 and 14 is respectfully requested.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 9 AND 24 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 9 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bacchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,741,113) in view of Sieradzki et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0123958). Claims 24 has been cancelled with this response without prejudice or disclaimer. Furthermore, as stated above, claim 1 is believed to be allowable over the cited art. Sieradzki et al. fail to remedy the deficiencies of the primary reference.

Accordingly, dependent claim 9 is further believed to be allowable over the cited art and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 9 is respectfully requested.

IV. CONCLUSION

For at least the above reasons, the claims currently under consideration are believed to be in condition for allowance.

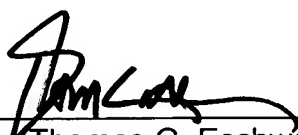


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Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should any fees be due as a result of the filing of this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account Number 50-1733, EATNP156US.

Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: March 29, 2006


Christine Gillroy